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Dated 10<sup>th</sup> September 2009

To,  
United States Patent and Trademark Office,  
Randolph Building,  
401 Dulany Street,  
Alexandria, VA 22314,  
The United States of America.

Dear Sir,

Subject: Response to the Examination Report.  
Reference: Application Numbered 10568192  
Applicant: Padam Singh  
Examiner: John Rivell  
Art Unit: 3753  
PCT Number: PCT/IN2004/000243  
Title: A LIQUID SEAL FOR RECOVERING FLARED GAS

The following shall be taken as my response to the Examination report:

1. Considering the documents cited, I agree with the examiner that Claim 1 and Claim 2 do not seem to consist of a patentable matter in totality. I thus propose to not claim the disclosure shown in the Claim 1 (a) and Claim 1 (b), while limiting my claim to the statements below the Claim 1 (b). I propose to totally delete Claim 2 and Claim 3.
2. I propose to include a new claim numbered 9, which shall be as follows:

A device comprising of:

- (a) a bent tube of U shape, such U-tube having one arm connected to the pipe collecting all the vented gas released from the plant, and other arm connected to a liquid holder;
- (b) a pipe, fitted with a non-return valve, connecting the bottom of the liquid holder to the bottom of the U-tube;

(c) the top of the liquid holder connected to the piping leading to the flare stack;

wherein there is provided a piping connecting the tip of one arm of the U-tube to the pipe connecting top of the liquid holder; the U-tube and the liquid holder forming a structure so as to form the only passage available for the gas to escape from the plant to the flare stack; such gas escaping from the plant to the flare only when the liquid in the said U-tube has been completely displaced into the liquid holder due to the pressure applied by such escaping gas.

The statement

*(a) a bent tube of U shape, such U-tube having one arm connected to the pipe collecting all the vented gas released from the plant, and other arm connected to a liquid holder;*

*(b) a piping, fitted with a non-return valve, connecting the bottom of the liquid holder to the bottom of the U-tube;*

*(c) the top of the liquid holder connected to the piping leading to the flare stack;*

provides a description of the construction of the liquid seal and is not intended to be claimed, while the part of the statement

*wherein there is provided a piping connecting the tip of one arm of the U-tube to the pipe connecting top of the liquid holder; the U-tube and the liquid holder forming a structure so as to form the only passage available for the gas to escape from the plant to the flare stack; such gas escaping from the plant to the flare only when the liquid in the said U-tube has been completely displaced into the liquid holder due to the pressure applied by such escaping gas*

has been taken from the original Claim 1 as I believe this feature is novel and my intention is to claim this novelty.

3. The Claims 5 & 6 are as originally filed

4. I propose to delete the Claims 7 & 8 as these do not define the invention in any technical term.

5. I further wish to cancel the POWER OF ATTORNEY given to my attorneys and shall be further prosecuting the application myself. Form PTL/SB/81 is filed along this submission.

6. I wish all communication to be sent to the following address in The United States of America:

Shikhar Singh,  
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7. Other than the changes brought about in this document, I wish the Office to consider the application as amended at International stage under Article 34 of PCT.
8. A Claims sheet consisting all Claims accompanies this submission.

I hope that the Office shall be satisfied with our arguments presented here and prosecute the application further.

Regards



Padam Singh  
(Applicant)